AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.(cancelled)

2.(previously presented): A communication line control method comprising:

providing a plurality of communication terminal devices each incorporating communication functions containing voice communications and data communications, and accommodating a plurality of communication lines connected to a network;

providing a centralized management communication terminal device;

causing, if said plurality of communication terminal devices are capable of controlling the same call through communication lines corresponding thereto, a line control unit of said centralized management communication terminal device to notify of a state of the call a specified communication terminal device among said plurality of communication terminal devices and to acknowledge the control by said specified communication terminal device so that only said specified communication terminal device as a control-acknowledged terminal device processes the same call on the basis of condition data; and

causing a distributed control module of the specified communication terminal device to avoid a conflict about the same call between said plurality of communication terminal devices that utilize the communication lines.

3.(currently amended): A communication line control method ~~according to claim 1 or 2, further~~ comprising:

providing a plurality of communication terminal devices each incorporating communication functions containing voice communications and data communications, and accommodating a plurality of communication lines connected to a network;

providing a centralized management communication terminal device;

causing, if said plurality of communication terminal devices are capable of controlling the same call through communication lines corresponding thereto, a line control unit of said centralized management communication terminal device to notify of a state of the call a specified communication terminal device among said plurality of communication terminal devices and to acknowledge the control by said specified communication terminal device so that only said specified communication terminal device as a control-acknowledged terminal device processes the same call on the basis of condition data;

causing a distributed control module of the specified communication terminal device to avoid a conflict about the same call between said plurality of communication terminal devices that utilize the communication lines;

notifying said line control unit of a change in state by an indication given from said distributed control module with respect to the call of which said line control unit notifies said distributed control module;

changing the condition data about the call control in said line control unit; and

changing a control target condition and a notifying target condition with respect to the plurality of calls.

4.(previously presented): A communication line control method comprising:

providing a plurality of communication terminal devices each incorporating communication functions containing voice communications and data communications, accommodating a plurality of communication lines connected to a network, and capable of controlling an arbitrary call;

causing, if said plurality of communication terminal devices forming a plurality of groups and when a control request with respect to a specified call is made on an arbitrary communication terminal device within one group or when a state of the call changes, a line control unit of said arbitrary communication terminal device to give broadcasting notifications of a change in control reservation state with respect to the specified call to said line control units of said plurality of communication terminal devices within other groups;

causing said line control unit of said arbitrary communication terminal device, after receiving acknowledgements about the control reservation state from said line control units, having received the broadcasting notifications, of said communication terminal devices within other groups, to give a right of control of the call to a distributed control module of said arbitrary communication terminal device that utilizes the communication lines; and

causing said distributed control module of said arbitrary communication terminal device to execute exclusive control between said communication terminal devices within other groups by unifying the states about the specified call between said communication terminal devices of other groups without being aware of the communication lines.

5.(previously presented): A communication line control method comprising:

providing a plurality of communication terminal devices each incorporating communication functions containing voice communications and data communications,

accommodating a plurality of communication lines connected to a network, and capable of controlling an arbitrary call;

setting one arbitrary communication terminal device as a centralized management communication terminal device of which a line control unit manages in centralization said other communication terminal devices;

allocating, when controlling a specified call by said other communication terminal devices, a right of control to said other communication terminal devices by said centralized management communication terminal device on the basis of preset condition data; and

causing a distributed control module of said arbitrary communication terminal device to execute exclusive control between said other communication terminal devices that utilize the communication by unifying the states about the specified call between said other communication terminal devices without being aware of the communication lines.

6.(currently amended): A communication line control method according to claim 4 or 5, further comprising:

monitoring a processing load within [[the]] a self communication terminal device and a load on the communication line in said line control unit of each of said communication terminal devices or in said line control unit of said centralized management communication terminal device; and

managing a plurality of calls by switching over a mode of the line control in said line control unit of each of said communication terminal devices or in said line control unit of said centralized management communication terminal device on the basis of the condition data preset corresponding to a state of this load.

7.(currently amended): A communication line control method comprising:

providing a plurality of communication terminal devices each incorporating communication functions containing voice communications and data communications, and accommodating a plurality of communication lines connected to a network;

notifying, if there occurs a change in state of one arbitrary communication terminal device, of this state [[said]] a line control unit of said other communication terminal device from an interface of said one arbitrary communication terminal device that has a function of operating with an independent power supply connected to a line control unit of said one arbitrary communication terminal device;

updating a condition table in said line control unit of said other communication terminal device; and

executing the line control related to said communication terminal device exhibiting the change in state.

8.(cancelled)

9.(original): A communication line control system comprising:

a plurality of communication terminal devices each incorporating communication functions containing voice communications and data communications, and accommodating a plurality of communication lines connected to a network; and

a centralized management communication terminal device including a line control unit for determining, if said plurality of communication terminal devices are capable of

controlling the same call through corresponding communication lines, a specified communication terminal device as a control-assigned terminal device among said plurality of communication terminal devices with respect to the same call on the basis of preset condition data, and notifying said specified communication terminal device of a state of the call and acknowledging the control thereof so that only said specified communication terminal device processes the same call.

10.(original): A communication line control system comprising

a plurality of communication terminal devices each incorporating communication functions containing voice communications and data communications, accommodating a plurality of communication lines connected to a network, and capable of controlling an arbitrary call;

wherein if said plurality of communication terminals form a plurality of groups and when a control request with respect to a specified call is made on an arbitrary communication terminal device within one group or when a state of the call changes, a line control unit of said arbitrary communication terminal device gives broadcasting notifications of a change in control reservation state with respect to the specified call to said line control units of said plurality of communication terminal devices within other groups,

said line control unit of said arbitrary communication terminal device, after receiving acknowledgements about the control reservation state from said line control units, having received the broadcasting notifications, of said communication terminal devices within other groups, gives a right of control of the call to a distributed control module of said arbitrary communication terminal device that utilizes the communication lines, and

said distributed control module thus executes exclusive control between said communication terminal devices within other groups.

11.(original): A communication line control system comprising:

a plurality of communication terminal devices each incorporating communication functions containing voice communications and data communications, accommodating a plurality of communication lines connected to a network, and capable of controlling an arbitrary call,

wherein when a line control unit of one arbitrary communication terminal device manages in centralization said other communication terminal devices, said centralized management communication terminal device allocates, in the case of controlling a specified call by said other communication terminal devices, a right of control to said other communication terminal devices on the basis of preset condition data, and

a distributed control module of said arbitrary communication terminal device utilizing the communication lines executes exclusive control between said communication terminal devices by unifying the states about the specified call between said other communication terminal devices without being aware of the communication lines.

12.(currently amended): A communication line control system comprising:

a plurality of communication terminal devices each incorporating communication functions containing voice communications and data communications, and accommodating a plurality of communication lines connected to a network;

wherein if there occurs a change in state of one arbitrary communication terminal device, an interface of said one arbitrary communication terminal device that has a function of operating with an independent power supply connected to a line control unit of said one arbitrary communication terminal device gives a notification of a state to line control units of said other communication terminal devices,

condition tables are updated in said line control units of said other communication terminal devices, and

the line related to said communication terminal device exhibiting a change in state is controlled.